DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836 SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001 (916) 653-5791



September 13, 2010

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON DRAFT FUNDING GUIDELINES AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is soliciting comments on its Draft Flood Corridor Program Guidelines and Application (Guidelines) for the Flood Corridor Program. The purpose of these draft guidelines is to establish the process and criteria that DWR will use to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, award competitive grants, and administer funds.

Program Descriptions

As part of the FloodSAFE California Initiative, DWR administers a grant program using the funds authorized under Proposition 84 (the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006), and Proposition 1E (Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond Act of 2006). DWR recently posted on the Internet draft guidelines that address funding allocations through the Flood Protection Corridor Program (FPCP) and the Floodway Corridor Program (FCP), together called the Flood Corridor Program (Program). The mission of the Program is to fund flood management solutions through both direct expenditures and grants to local public agencies and nonprofit organizations. Funding under this Program is intended to be used for flood risk reduction projects primarily using non-structural methods including the acquisition, restoration, enhancement and protection of real property while preserving sustainable agriculture and conserving and enhancing wildlife habitat in and near flood corridors throughout the State. DWR, in its implementation of the Program (originally established by voter approval of Proposition 13 in March 2000), seeks to avoid future flood damage and correct existing problems by restoring natural fluvial and related biological processes in flood corridors by acquiring, through easement or fee title, rights to real property that is subject to periodic damaging flood flows. The Program is statewide in scope, although a portion of the Proposition 1E funding is designated in the Governor's budget only for use within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley to reduce flood risk for areas protected by State Plan of Flood Control facilities. This component is known as the Central Valley Non-Structural Grants Program.

Following are brief descriptions of both programs:

Flood Protection Corridor Program (FPCP) using Proposition 84 funding:
 Originally initiated under Proposition 13 (the Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Water Quality, and Flood Control Bond Act of 2000), the FPCP provides funds to eligible agencies and organizations for the protection, creation, and enhancement of flood protection corridors by acquiring flood-prone land and/or easements from willing sellers, setting back flood control levees, preserving agricultural land, and preserving and enhancing wildlife habitat in and near flood corridors throughout the state.



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Floodway Corridor Program (FCP) using Proposition 1E funding:

The FCP is similar to the FPCP in both its purpose and fundable actions. However, in addition to those actions, the FCP also provides for constructing new levees necessary for the establishment of a flood protection corridor or bypass; and relocating or flood proofing structures necessary for the establishment of a flood protection corridor.

Flood Corridor Program staff will be present at the public meetings listed below to further describe the Program, answer questions and receive comments on the proposed Guidelines. All interested persons are invited to attend and express their views, either in person or via the Internet WebEx conference opportunity*. Only the Sacramento meeting will be available on the Internet.

Meeting Locations, Dates, and Times:

Sacramento*

Resources Building Auditorium 1416 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Wednesday, October 13, 2010 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*We are hoping to provide WebEx or equivalent internet access during the October 13 workshop. *To get more information about internet participation in the conference on October 13, please check the FPCP website.*

Red Bluff

Red Bluff City Council Chambers 555 Washington Street Red Bluff, CA 96080 Monday, October 18, 2010 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Riverside

California Tower Building, High Grove Room 3737 Main Street Riverside, CA 92501 Wednesday, October 20, 2010 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

How to Register to Receive Future Notifications

To receive notifications regarding this grant solicitation, please register at http://www.water.ca.gov/bms/. Once the grant solicitation is released, applications will be accepted through DWR's Bond Management System (BMS).

How to Get a Copy of the Guidelines

The draft guidelines are available to the public at the Department of Water Resources' Flood Protection Corridor Program website: http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/fpo/sgb/fpcp/. Hard copies of the draft guidelines are also available upon request. Those interested in receiving a hard copy of the draft guidelines may contact Earl Nelson in writing at the address below or by calling (916) 574-1244.



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Comments Due Date: November 1, 2010

Electronic or digital format is preferred; however, comments may be submitted in person, by mail, or by email. Comments submitted in person or by mail may be delivered to:

Department of Water Resources Division of Flood Management 3310 El Camino Avenue, Room 140 Sacramento, California 95821 Attention: Earl Nelson

Comments submitted by email should be sent to Earl Nelson at enelson@water.ca.gov. All comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on November 1, 2010 Pacific Standard Time. Comments received after this time and date may not be accepted or addressed in the final guidelines.

If you have additional questions, please contact:

Earl Nelson, Chief Flood Corridor Programs and Environmental Support Branch (916) 574-1244 enelson@water.ca.gov

